

SOTFIZINE #1

march

2006

Antanas Jasenka # Sonic machine

Sonic machine is what could be described as a chaos of sounds which appears and disappears behind a layer of calm water which turns this disorder into a distant ambient shape. All is abstract, all is confused but everything bizzarely sounds clear and pleasing. The music is constructed as a noisy, chaotic rhythms or ambiances driven with simple clear melodies. The whole is starting glitch-like in the first tracks then changing gradually into pure noise towards the end of the album. Sonic machine is an excellent exemple of borderless electronic experimentation which uses sounds that wouldn't otherwise come together.

Downloadable on entity.be/entity/

Jean Nine # Whispers and the storm

Slow and low are the whispers of the guitars and drums walking through a virtual storm of emotions. Marching on a sinusoidal line going slightly to and fro between the fields of happiness and sadness. As an old sad man dancing on the road, walking towards potential satisfaction. From time to time rises grinding guitars revealing the metal background of the artist adding to the tenor of the sparkles of melancholy which are shattered through this album. Eventhough it is based on a post-rock structure it still holds a certain kind of groove proper to trip-hop. As this is said every trip-hop lover must give a listen to this. Praise the maker.

Downloadable on kyoto.scene.org

Kevin M Krebs # Rien à voir 15

Listening to Rien à voir 15 in contrast to what it means, litteraly nothing to see, draws your mind into imagining thousands of scenes all entangled one with another confusingly.

This feeling is reinforced by the changing structure of the music which glides from shapeless blocks of noise to natural soundscapes, spoken words sometimes set alone and sometimes mixed together creating a special atmosphere.

Rien à voir 15 is like a soundtrack for a complex and hypnotizing cyber-punk novel. Rare are the artists that can make you dig so easily into your imagination to illustrate their work with concrete thoughts.

Downloadable on www.con-v.org

Masaya Sasaki # Picnic plan

There have obviously been some contribution on this release by some alien or so it seems. Sounds seem to come from a distant future and played on an old radio. Some would describe it as an abstract and somehow distorted second world war bombing alarm. Especially on the second track 'vacillate' which spreads a nearly inaudible wave which gently pokes through your ears and transports you to a nearly comatose state. Then comes metallic water-like clicks drowned under an ambient noise layer that wakes you from your dream. Finally it ends beautifully with a 7 minutes ambient electronica with repetitive piano tunes that pulls you to a dream-like serenity.

Downloadable on minusrn.com

Mellsch # Mellsch

Mellsch grants us here a beautiful minimal ambient release. Although the general structure of the music is based on continuous and omnipresent spoken words sequences, each track comes wrapped in a different layer as we can hear anything from clean classical instruments to electronic sounds. The music goes on a steady and unchanging pace accompanying the poetry of Ruud Linssen which is sung in dutch (unfortunately for non-dutch speakers). The tone of Linssen's voice along with the low volume of the background sounds make the whole quite relaxing while keeping a certain touch of bleakness.

Downloadable on wmrecordings.com

Loscil # Stases

This release is perfect as it drains your presence from the world and takes you away. It takes you to the realm of your imagination. Relax. You are thousands of miles away from the earth. Even I had problems writing this review, I couldn't write a sentence until the end of a track. Stases could be the name of a spell that when used puts you in a temporary state of reverie and Loscil the name of the vagrant druid who created it to spread serenity upon the people he meets on his journey. Under no circumstances should you listen to this music in a situation that requires full attention and concentration from your part such as surgery, or simply driving (imagine the result :). On the other hand we strongly encourage the united nations to use it for stopping wars.

Downloadable on one.dot9.ca

Microtonner # Sub zero

Sub zero is the image of what becomes post-rock when stained by industrial music, an outstanding musical piece of art. These two components emphasize on each others sad nature resulting in these dark melodies created by background distorted guitars. Despite its slowness the music is rendered tonic by the use of electronic beats throughout the album. From time to time a spoken vocal sample comes adding to the mysterious ambience that emanates from this release but sometimes not so successfully. All this contributes in making Sub zero original and unique.

Downloadable on laridae.at

Wave to Mr. Smith # Akinom

Akinom, a sweet name for a wave of calm and mystery. A name for shapeless but catchy sounds. Akinom is ambient, a uniform layer of noise adorned with glitching instruments. Its charm comes from the little fragments of darkness that have melted into it. The ocean, the stars and the earth singing their litanies, their memories of the past. The abstract low pitched whistles seem to come from the mouth of an ancient haunted cave.

Its inhabiting spirits performing an esoteric ritual praising the earth for being their shelter.

Filling your ear with primitive sounds something punctured by threads of noises that seem to come from outerspace.

Downloadable on subsource.de

Info

Sothzine is a monthly underground music mag available as a PDF book and as a web page on <http://sothzine.atspace.com/>.

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To submit your music for review send a mail to sothzine@yahoo.com with a link to your music.

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